

Jasper Weekly Courier.

VOL. 58.

JASPER, INDIANA, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1915,

No. 6.

HOLDEN PLANS TO PUT ALFALFA ON EVERY FARM

Plan to Unite All Interests in Nation-Wide Campaign for the General Growing of Alfalfa.

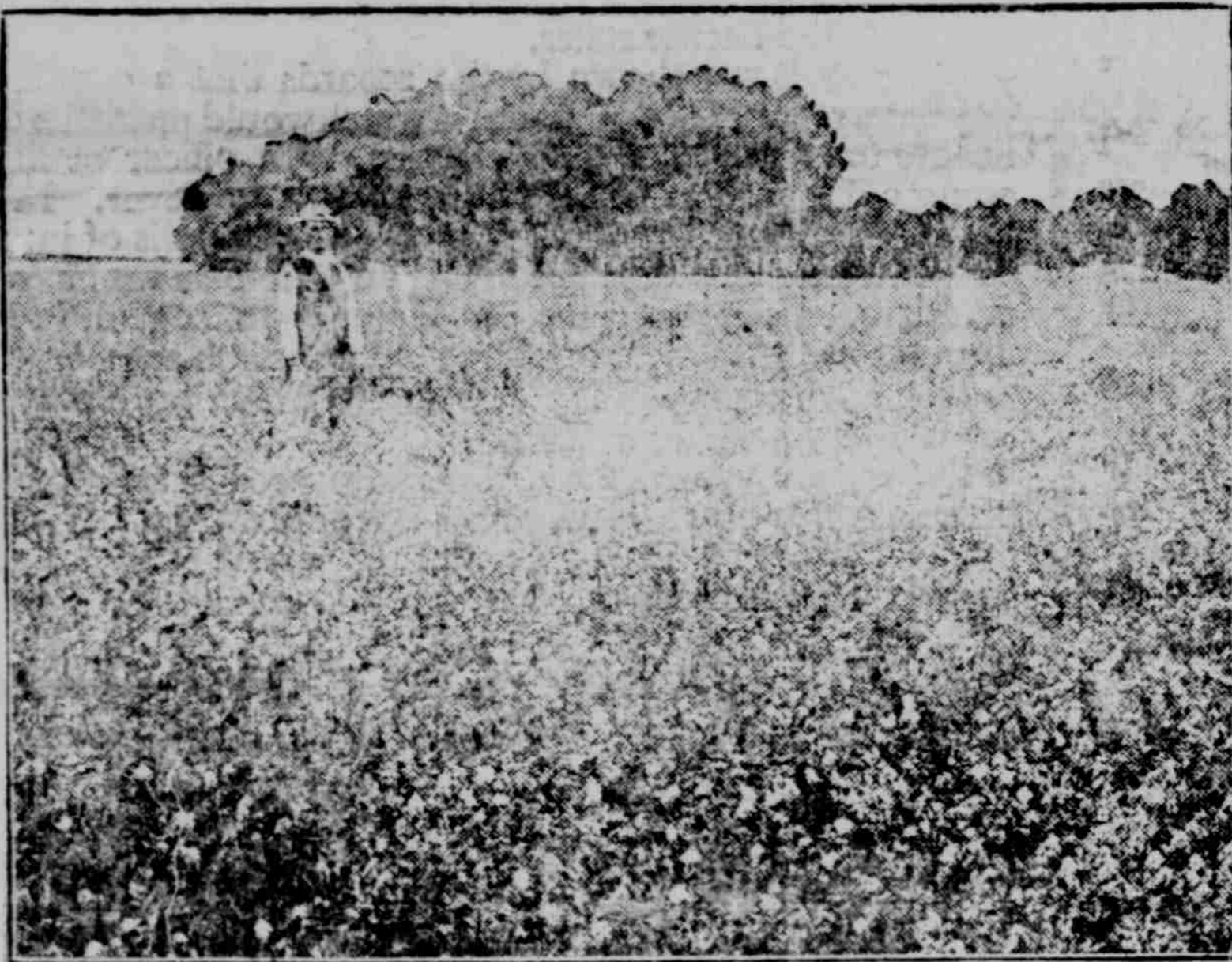
Extension Department to Aid Any Community Interested in Conducting Campaign to Encourage the Growing of Alfalfa—No More Difficult to Grow Than Clover and Gives Double the Yield

Alfalfa Automobile Trains Important Feature of the Work—Schedules to Be Arranged and Meetings to Be Held at Farm Homes—Prominent Speakers to Accompany Each Alfalfa Train—Alfalfa Organizations Will Be Formed in Each Community to Promote the Work—Field Men Experienced in Alfalfa Growing Will Follow Up Preliminary Work Where Requested and Give Aid in Getting a Start—Professor P. G. Holden, Director Extension Department, International Harvester Company, Chicago, Will Direct the Work.

Campaign work with automobiles to begin early in April and extend into the late fall. County and city superintendents of schools, colleges, institute workers, Chautauqua lecturers, and others interested in the work will be assisted in obtaining alfalfa charts and lantern slides. Alfalfa literature and booklets will be given wide distribution throughout the country. Special alfalfa articles will be sent to farm journals and magazines, and plate and matrix pages to newspapers. Alfalfa editions of newspapers will be published where campaigns are conducted. Dates will be arranged for "Alfalfa Day" in the schools. The campaign will be conducted in co-operation with farmers' institutes, bankers, business men, commercial clubs, granges, live stock and dairy associations in any community where the people are anxious to improve their conditions agriculturally and are willing to give their time and money for an enthusiastic campaign.

Work to be started immediately in the Corn and Cotton Belt States and in the East. Thirty to forty meetings will be held in each county, the number depending on local conditions.

To accomplish the most in agricultural development, we must begin with the man behind the crop. Upon him depends the final working out of the



Alfalfa Field in Bloom.

principles of agriculture—the simple and practical things—which our schools, colleges and experiment stations are endeavoring to bring into general use.

Professor Holden proposes to carry these principles further even than the very effective work done on the agricultural trains, by using that most modern vehicle—the automobile—going directly to the people on their own farms where the meetings are to be held.

Agricultural development needs in addition to the work of our public institutions, the individual efforts of every merchant, banker, corporation, or laboring man, and this plan calls for their heartiest co-operation.

This plan for increasing the yields of our crops by the more extensive growing of that wonderful soil improver, ALFALFA, is meeting the approval of all men who have any knowledge of the beneficial results of its introduction as a general crop.

Campaigns are now being organized in five different states, and Professor Holden is daily answering requests for his assistance in organizing other localities, and invites cordial co-operation with every community interested.

Eleven pounds of alfalfa is worth as much in feeding value as ten pounds of bran, and it costs but half as much.

No Hay So Good as Alfalfa.

There is no other hay so good as alfalfa for all kinds of live stock, and for horses and hogs alfalfa is invaluable, either as a hay, a soiling crop, or a pasture. It excels as a hog pasture, and, with hogs, makes one of the most profitable farm combinations. An alfalfa field is said to be a hog's idea of heaven.

In root growth alfalfa resembles red clover, but sends down a stronger tap root. When properly handled it produces three or four cuttings each year and remains productive for many years. Land which is adapted to red clover usually grows alfalfa when any lack of inoculation and of lime is supplied.

Alfalfa does best when sown alone. Many failures are due to sowing it with oats or barley. These take so much water from the soil that the alfalfa dies.

Alfalfa growing marks the highest development in our modern agriculture.

"Alfalfa is the richest hay food known."—J. W. Spillman

SOCIAL INFLICTIONS.

I have seen men who neigh like a horse when you contradict them or say something they do not understand; then the overbold, who make their own invitation to your hearth; the persevering talker, who gives you his society in large, saturating doses; the pitiers of themselves—a perilous class; the frivolous Asmodeus, who relies on you to find him in ropes of sand to twist; the monotones; in short, every stripe of absurdity—these are social afflictions which the magistrate cannot cure or defend you from, and which must be intrusted to the restraining force of custom, and proverbs and familiar rules of behavior impressed on young people in their school days—

KEEP WATER ON REGISTER.

If you live in a house where there is a furnace always keep a vessel of water on the register and you will always have hot water and not have to use any gas in heating it.

Getting the Dollar From Under the Stump

How Up to Date Farmers Are Easily and Economically Realizing on Land Hitherto Impossible of Cultivation.

ABOUT 400,000,000 acres of land included in farms throughout the United States are unimproved. Figuring that each acre could be made to produce at least \$25 worth of produce per year, there is approximately \$10,000,000,000 production being lost annually. Quite a tidy figure. And when we take into consideration that in many cases it requires only the removal of sundry stumps and boulders to make this land profitable, it certainly looks as though something might be done to save the waste. "Stumping with dynamite" is both an economical, quick and labor saving method as well as one that is growing in popularity daily.

The method involved in the blasting of a stump is to confine a quantity of explosive in such a manner that when exploded the expanding gases will lift

the stump out of the ground. To secure best results the charge should be placed in the soil well under the base of the stump at the point where the resistance offered to the force of the explosion will be equal on all sides.

Where the soil is of a heavy clay or plastic nature a slow acting powder is preferable, such as farm powder or stumping powder. Where the earth is sandy or loose and is apt to permit the easy escape of gases a fast explosive, such as 40 to 60 per cent dynamite should be used. The condition of the soil with respect to moisture also has a great influence upon the amount of work that a certain quantity of powder will do. After heavy rains when the soil is saturated to the base of the stump and the subsoil is just damp is a most favorable condition.

No set rules as to the amount of powder necessary to blast a certain

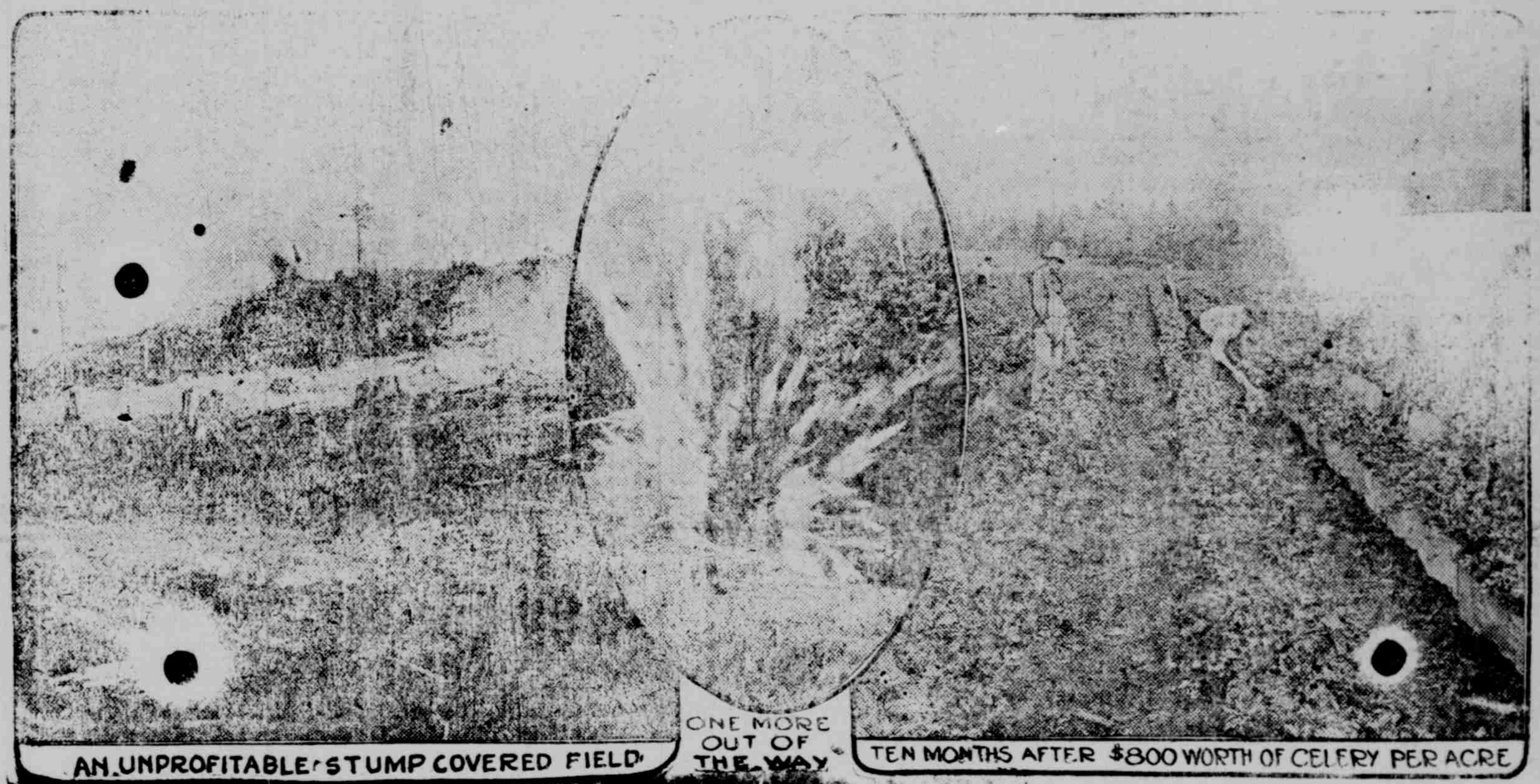
kind or size of stump can be given, since different conditions govern all cases. Two stumps of the same size, kind and age often when one is grown on well drained soil where the roots must penetrate a great depth for water and the other is grown on soil where there is always water near the surface, will demand different treatment for extraction. The older stumps, especially if from timber free from resin, require less powder. The exact amount necessary for set conditions can, however, be readily determined with a little experimenting.

Few tools and supplies are required. A one and one-half inch wood auger with a shank about four and one-half feet long, a medium sized crowbar, a round pointed shovel and a wooden tamping stick, together with the powder, fuse and caps, will serve to fill the bill.

their flow. Numerous irregularities cause them to meander about in apparently wasteful ways, and man's carelessness has added to these troubles by allowing driftwood and loose earth to form dams and sandbars.

All of these things help to hold the flood of waters back and cause either flooding or swamps, which not only occupy land that could be more profitably used for farming, but also form fine breeding places for mosquitoes and other obnoxious pests. Incidentally they cause an annual loss running into millions of dollars per year.

In this day of enlightenment such things are both wasteful and, one might add, criminal, especially so in view of the fact that almost instant relief may be had by a few well placed charges of dynamite. Not only will these blasts straighten out the kinks and bends and remove ledges and sand bars, but they will deepen and improve the channels as nature has really intended. Incidentally by straightening the winding course of a creek much area of tillable land can be obtained and farm operation in many instances made much easier.



Priming a Dynamite Cartridge

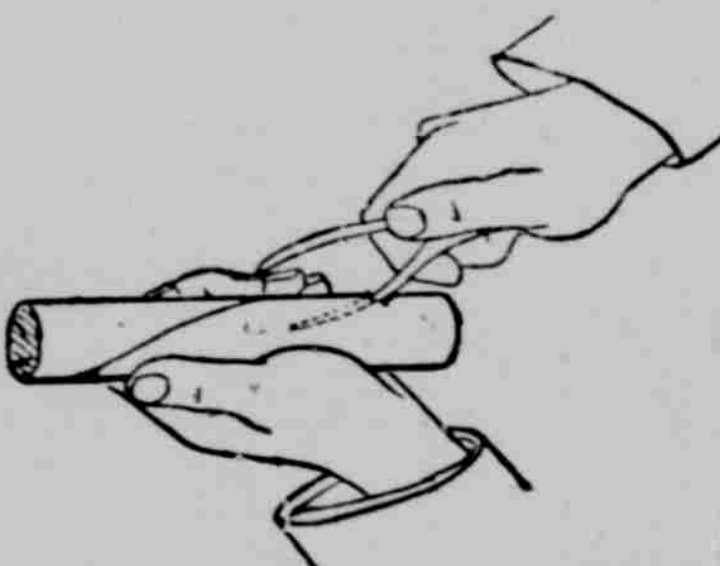
To properly prime a dynamite or farm powder cartridge four things are essential—the cap, the fuse, the cartridge and a crimping tool. The method in itself is very simple.

First crimp the priming cap about the fuse, using the crimping tool as



Crimping the Cap to the Fuse.

shown in the illustration. Next punch a diagonal hole in the cartridge with the end of the crimping tool, making the hole deep enough to entirely bury the cap. Insert the cap into this hole and tie the fuse to the side of the car-



Making Cap Hole in Cartridge.

tridge securely with a stout piece of cord.

If the job is done carefully and correctly the entire outfit will look like illustration No. 4, and the priming will be complete.

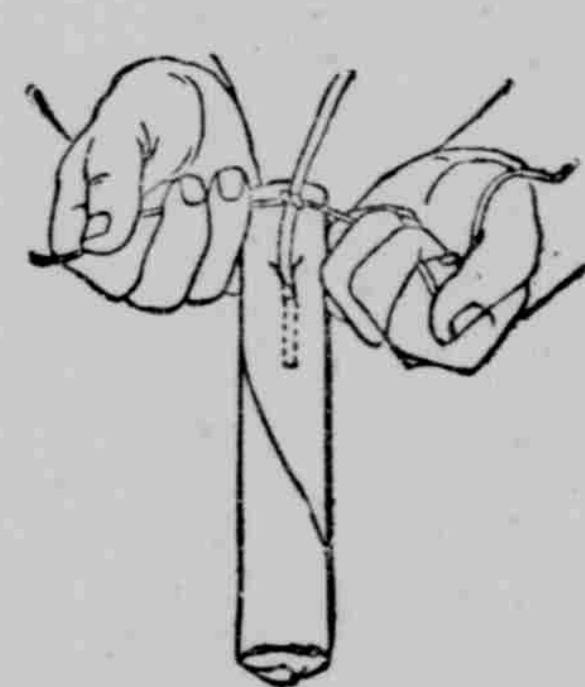
Ignorance, fear or carelessness are the causes of most accidents. There

Buckwheat Cakes.

There is nothing on the dining room table and nothing that could be placed there that is so great and formidable an enemy to the human face as buckwheat cakes. They are sure to make the complexion yellow and covered with eruptions. Don't insult your face by putting buckwheat cakes into it. They head the entire list of complexion destroyers.—Exchange.

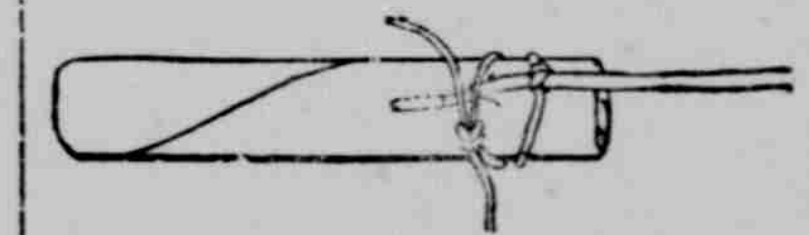
is no immediate danger in handling a stick of farm powder if the user will use but an ordinary amount of care and intelligence.

A common incorrect method of priming is to punch a hole right through the cartridge, pass the capped fuse



Tying Fuse and Cap to Cartridge.

through it, then insert in another diagonal hole below the first hole. No tying is necessary to hold the cap in the cartridge. This method is called "lacing the fuse through the cartridge." It is unsafe and unreliable. The fuse is likely to break at the sharp turns and the powder train spit fire through



The Finished Cartridge—Primed.

the break, setting fire to the cartridge instead of exploding it, or the fuse may miss fire altogether, leaving an unexploded charge in the hole, or it may hang fire for half an hour or half a day and cause a serious accident. Short cuts do not pay in handling explosives.

Enterprise.



Explosives in Road Building Straightening Streams With Dynamite

One of the newer methods of road building that is fast winning the endorsement of the better versed contractor is that of employing dynamite for reducing the heavy work.

Grading through hard ground or rock, for instance, is tedious and requires time and labor. The use of dynamite for blasting such material is a welcome relief. Both rock and hard clay may be loosened in the cut by well placed charges of explosives if holes are drilled into the ground a little way up the bank and loaded. Careful spacing and loading for electrically fired blasts will result in bringing down both classes of materials in the best possible manner



In loosening shale and rock to facilitate hand or steam shovel work dynamite is also very effective, while stumps may be blasted from the roadside just as though they were being removed from a field to be cleared and cultivated.

Boulders also are easily shattered by suitable loading and when of hard rock may be crushed into surfacing stone. The side ditches as well as the long outfall ditches can also be blasted in keeping with the nature of the ground. In fact, there are no limits practically to the many uses and advantages of dynamite for road building when careful and thoughtful attention is given to the work.

Incidentally the planting of shade trees for roadside improvement and attractiveness is greatly facilitated by the judicious use of little dynamite. It is a recognized fact that trees planted in blasted holes grow much more rapidly and progress more favorably than those planted in the average spade dug ground.

The ancient Egyptians were noted for their crops because, as history states, they "sowed their seeds in the Nile." This does not mean that they actually cast the seed in the river. At certain seasons of the year the Nile overflows its banks, depositing on either shore a rich silt or earth that is highly conducive to bumper crops, and the wise ancient Egyptians, realizing this, profited thereby.

Water is a necessity. The tiniest brooks up to the largest rivers play an important part in the scheme of things inasmuch as they are nature's way of

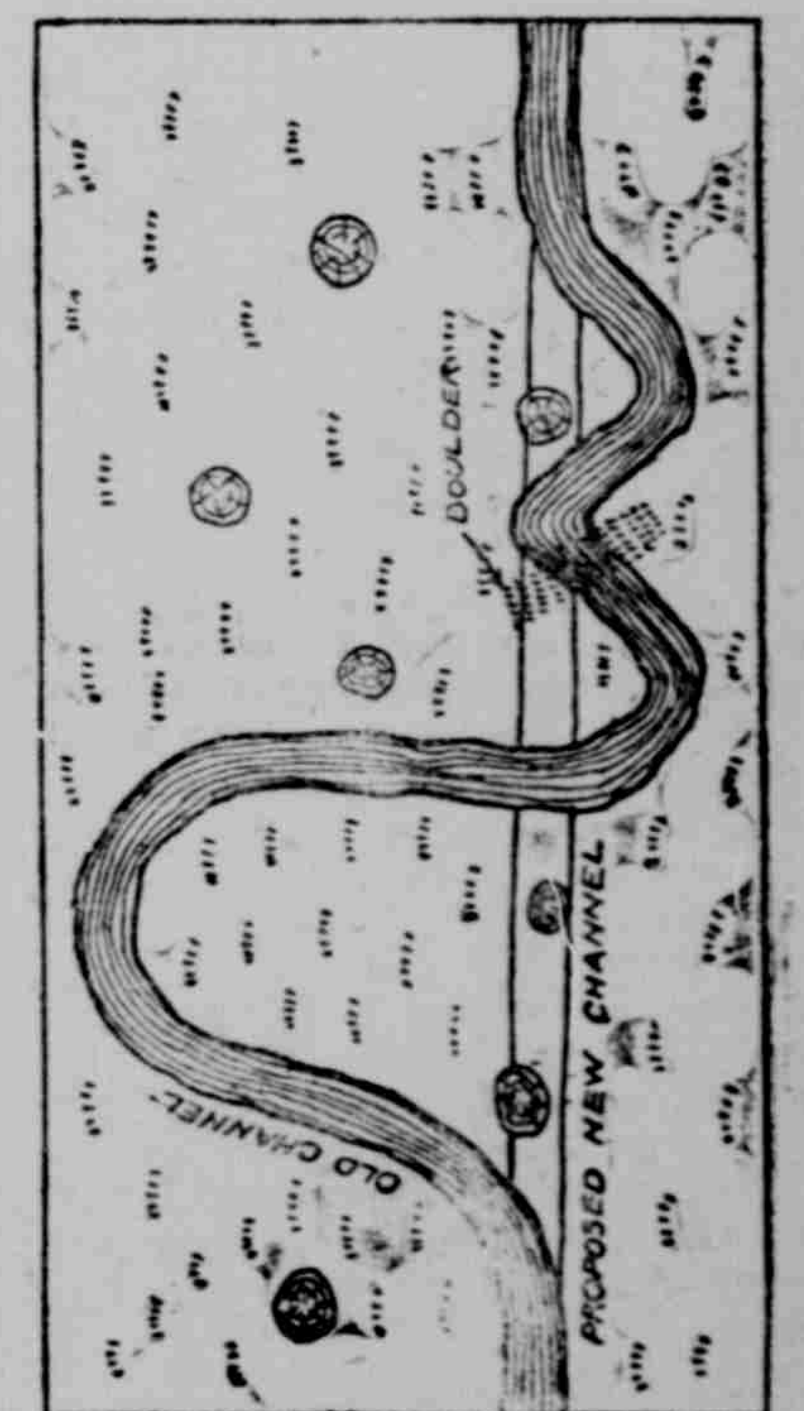


Diagram of Stream Troubles That May Be Corrected by Blasting.

both irrigation and drainage. But being formed according to nature's dictates their courses do not always jibe with man's desires or needs.

Rock ledges impede their progress. Overhanging stumps and trees retard